

INFORMATION ~~SECRET~~ REPORT

COUNTRY Ecuador

DATE DISTR. 22 September 1948
CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT Communist Efforts to Penetrate Labor Syndicates

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PLACE 25X1A

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DATE OF I

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Primitivo Barreto, Secretary General of the Ecuadoran Communist Party, stated recently that the Party should place greater emphasis on the penetration of labor. He added that, if the Party strictly and efficiently follows plans already outlined by him, there is no reason why the Communists should fail to gain control over the majority of labor syndicates in a relatively short time.
2. Barreto's plan consists mainly in distributing Communist literature in the syndicates and inviting syndicate members to special conferences with Party members in syndicate headquarters. This, it is believed, will eventually increase the number of members in Communist cells within the syndicates. The Central Committee of the Party has appointed special delegations to visit labor syndicates daily to promote strike plans and to win converts to the cause. Party cells are being reorganized with new secretaries who are instructed to promote the Communist cause within their respective syndicates.
3. Until recently the Communists have been reluctant to accept new members. They are now particularly interested in obtaining new members from the working classes. Party leaders stated that their experience in the past indicated that the middle class and the intellectuals failed to carry their share of the burden.
4. Barreto and Pedro Saad, outstanding Communist labor leader, expect to change a number of the National and Provincial Headquarters personnel and to replace them with members from the working classes. Several leaders have already been selected and are presently being trained for their new positions. This reorganization, although on a small scale, is already being noticed and it has given new hopes to members for the future of the Party.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

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